

Advent is a paradoxical season: a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling, a season that looks back at the people who waited in darkness for the coming light of Christ and yet forward to a fuller light still to come and illuminate our darkness. Advent falls in winter, at the end of the year, in the dark and cold, but its focus is on the coming of light and life, when the Ancient of Days becomes a young child and says, 'Behold, I make all things new.' The Latin root of the familiar word 'Advent' is *veni*. It speaks of 'coming', the coming of Christ in every way.

—Malcolm Guite

*That the Great Angel-blinding light should shrink
His blaze, to shine in a poor Shepherd's eye;
That the unmeasur'd God so low should sinke,
As Pris'ner in a few poor rags to lye,
That from His Mother's Breast He milke should drinke,
Who feeds with Nectar heaven's faire family,
That a vile Manger His low Bed should prove,
Who in a Throne of stars Thunders above;*

*That He whom the Sun serves, should faintly peepe
Through clouds of Infant Flesh! That He the old
Eternall Word should be a Child, and weepe;
That He who made the fire, should feare the cold,
That Heaven's high Majesty His Court should keepe
In a clay cottage, by each blast control'd;
That Glories self should serve our Griefs and feares,
And free Eternity submit to years,*

Let our overwhelming wonder be.

Richard Crashaw
c. 1613–1649

The PCPC Chancel Choir has commissioned the Latvian composer Ēriks Ešenvalds to write a new piece of music featuring this text. It will be premiered at the Christmas Concert on December 14.

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

November 30, 2025
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Paul Goebel

*Call to Worship

Minister: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Minister: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

Isaiah 40.1-4

*Carol of Anticipation and Adoration

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

Hymn No. 193 in the Trinity Hymnal



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep — si - lence, and with fear and
2. Kings of kings, yet born of — Mar - y, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of — heav - en spreads its van-guard
4. At His feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly — mind - ed,
earth He — stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the — way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,



for with bless - ing in His hand, Christ our God to earth de -
in the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
from the realms of end - less day: that the pow'rs of hell may
as with cease-less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly — food.
van - ish as the dark-ness clears a - way.
lu - - - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Please be seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Prophecy Candle: Isaiah 7.14

Marilyn and Bill Platt 8:00

The Schardt Family: Lindsay & Scott, Henry and Hattie 9:30

The Dickerson Family: Anna & Joseph, Laird, Grace, and Jeremiah 11:00

Prayer

Profession of Hope

The Rev. Robert Rucker

For thus says the LORD of hosts:
Yet once more, in a little while,
I will shake the heavens and the earth
and the sea and the dry land.
And I will shake all nations,
so that the treasures of all nations shall come in,
and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.

Behold, I send My messenger,
and he will prepare the way before Me.
And the Lord whom you seek
will suddenly come to His temple;
and the Messenger of the covenant
in whom you delight,
behold, He is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

Haggai 2.6-7, Malachi 3.1

Musical Preparation for Confession

9:30/11:00

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

arr. Nelson/McDonald

Christopher Adkins, *cello* • Stephen Nielson, *piano*

Public Confession of Sin

Mr. Rucker

Lord Christ,
we confess our willingness to be loved
but also our reluctance to love.
We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love
but also our refusal to forgive.
We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love
but also our resistance to follow You without question.
In this Advent time, forgive us our failure
to respond as we should.
Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You
with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary;
with love, as You have loved us.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Isaiah 9.2

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*Carol

8:00

9:30/11:00

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Sing all Stanzas

Stanza 1: Choir • Stanzas 2-5: Congregation



1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten
2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed,
3. This is He whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore — Him;
5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther,



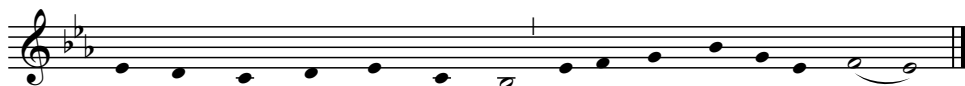
ere the worlds be - gan — to be, He is Al - pha
when the Vir - gin, full — of grace, by the Ho - ly
sang of old with one — ac - cord, whom the Scrip - tures
an - gel hosts, His prais - es sing; all do - min - ions,
and, O Ho - ly Ghost, — to Thee, hymn, and chant, and



and O - me - ga, He the Source, the End - ing He,
Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of — our race;
of the proph - ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word;
bow be - fore Him and ex - tol our God and King;
high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea - ried prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have — been,
and the babe, the world's Re - deem - - - er,
now He shines, the long - ex - pect - - - ed;
let no tongue on earth be si - - - lent,
hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - - - ion,



and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —
first re - vealed His sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —
let cre - a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —
ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —
and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Rucker

*In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome
to give online at pcpc.org/give or text “give” to 214-833-7724.*

Musical Offering

8:00

“Veni, Veni Emmanuel”
Mary Preston, organ

Gerald Near

9:30/11:00

“Lost in the Night”
Chancel Choir • Mr. Adkins, cello • Mr. Nielson, piano
J. Marty Cope, conductor

arr. Kyle Haugen

*Lost in the night do the people yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to
vanquish, plaintively heaving a sight full of anguish. Will not day come soon?
Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let
us borrow, giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon?
Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling, dawned has the day of a radiance
excelling, death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling. Christ is coming soon!*

*An Advent Doxology

TRURO



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2. So, come, my Sov' - reign, en - ter in! Let new and



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
no - bler life be - gin! Thy Ho - ly Spi - rit,



draw - ing - near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

*Worship Explorers will not meet today.
We encourage families to worship together.*

Extending Christ's Kingdom:

Boxes of Blessing

Katherine and Brian Steinbrueck

9:30/11:00

*The Scripture Reading: John 1.14-18; Colossians 2.8-10

John 1.14-18

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

¹⁵ (John bore witness about Him, and cried out, “This was He of whom I said,
‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.’”)

¹⁶ For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through
Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, He has
made Him known.

Colossians 2.8-10

*See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit,
according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the
world, and not according to Christ.*

⁹ *For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,*

¹⁰ *and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority.*

Sermon

“The Fullness of the Incarnation”

Mr. Goebel

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

***The Great Thanksgiving 8:00**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

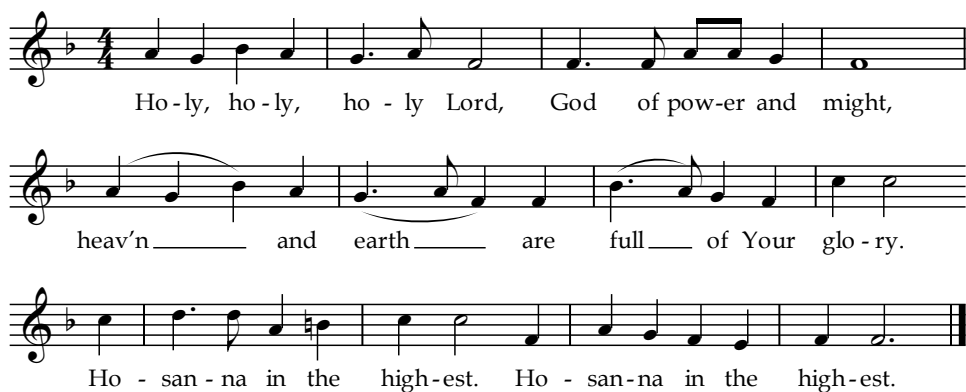
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere
to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty,
Everlasting God.

**People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the
company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious
Name; evermore praising You, and singing:**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***The Words of Institution 8:00**

Communion 8:00

Please remain seated.

*You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake
together when so instructed by the pastor.*

(The bread being served is gluten free.)

***Closing Hymn**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Hymn No. 194 in the Trinity Hymnal



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
2. O come, O come, Thou Lord ____ of might, Who to Thy
3. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine own from
4. O come, Thou Day - spring from ____ on high, and cheer us
5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
tribes, on Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give ____ the
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell Thy peo - ple
by Thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads ____ on



here, un - til the Son of God ____ ap - pear.
law in cloud and maj - es - ty ____ and awe.
save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er ____ the grave. Re - joice!
night, and death's dark shad - ows put ____ to flight.
high, and close the path to mis - er - y.



Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

***The Benediction**

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has
risen upon you.

Isaiah 60.1

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

The Postlude

8:00

“Come, Redeemer of Mankind”
Mrs. Preston, organ

Johann Pachelbel

9:30/11:00

“Savior of the Nations, Come” BWV 659
Mr. Cope, organ

J. S. Bach

**Please stand if you are able.*

*The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory
and praise of God and in loving memory of our parents
with love and gratitude from Nancy and Randy Best.*



**Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the
transforming presence of the Kingdom of our
Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.**

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

SERMON NOTES

John 1.14-18; Colossians 2.8-10
“The Fullness of the Incarnation”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1. Read John 1.14. What does the word “dwell” mean? How does this word connect the prologue of John’s Gospel to the book of Exodus?
2. What is the glory of God? How did God show Moses His glory?
How has God shown us His glory?
3. How is the incarnation of Jesus a demonstration of God’s grace?
4. Read John 1.16. What grace have we been given in place of grace?
5. Why does the Gospel of John refer to Jesus as the Word?
6. What sets the incarnation of Jesus apart from every other philosophy and human tradition in history?
7. How does the first advent of Jesus Christ give us hope as we wait for His second advent?

Highlights

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect with others in our church family, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.
pcpc.org/connect



Women's Advent Prayer

Tuesday, December 2

7:00 P.M. | CHAPEL

Come join other women in our community with a time of prayer and worship to begin the Christmas season. There will be a time of fellowship in the Grand Hall with desserts and coffee.

pcpc.org/women

Advent Memorial Service

Wednesday, December 3

5:30 P.M. | CHAPEL

Join us for a time of worship to remember and honor a loved one who has died this year. If you would like to have your loved one's name read, please arrive as early as 5:00 p.m. to record his or her name.

pcpc.org/advent

Boxes of Blessing

Saturday, December 6

8:30-11:30 A.M. | 6100 CEDAR SPRINGS RD

Bring your family and friends to help us extend the Kingdom of Christ to our city by filling 11,000 boxes of food. We are looking for people with trucks/SUVs to help deliver to ministry partners. Sign up online.

pcpc.org/boxes



Family Advent Service

Sunday, December 7

4:30 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

All families are invited to attend a special evening to celebrate Advent. Please join us at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a family-friendly dinner at 5:15 p.m. (reservations close on Dec. 5).

pcpc.org/advent

Communicant Parent Meeting

Sunday, December 7 or 14

11:00 A.M. | CHAPEL

This meeting is a pre-requisite for parents of children 3rd-8th grade and highly recommended for parents of high school students who would like to participate in the 6-week Communicant Classes from Jan. 11–Feb. 15 and seek admission to the Lord's Table at PCPC. Register online.

pcpc.org/events

2025 Ministry Impact Report

Download or pick up the report in the Grand Hall, and give thanks to the Lord for the great things He has done through PCPC.

pcpc.org/impact-report



Sold Out Christmas Concerts

O Come Candlelight Christmas on Sunday, December 14 is sold out! Not using your tickets? Please return unused tickets. Sign up to volunteer and get a ticket.

pcpcconcerts.org

PARK CITIES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75219

pcpc.org

Social: [@parkcitiespca](https://www.instagram.com/parkcitiespca)

App: pcpc.org/app

Church Office: 214-224-2500

Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742

or pastorsprayer@pcpc.org

24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680

or 24-7prayer@pcpc.org

Sermon Archives: pcpc.org/sermons

Deep Light Podcast: pcpc.org/deelight

Every Thought Captive: etcdev.org

GIVE ONLINE

Scan QR code for pcpc.org/give/, and read PCPC's biblical Principles of Stewardship.



Download the PCPC App with iOS or Android device to give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

GENERAL FUND

2025/2026 Operating Budget	\$17,500,000
Jul 1, 2025–Nov 16, 2025 Budget	\$5,006,755
Jul 1, 2025–Nov 16, 2025 Giving	\$6,394,087
Budget Variance	\$1,387,332